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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Public Health Service Acts to make community colleges eligible to participate in the Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention–Pathway to Registered Nurse Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CISCOMANI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Acts to make community colleges eligible to participate in the Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention–Pathway to Registered Nurse Program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Grants for Resources
5 in Occupational and Workforce Training for Healthcare
6 Act of 2023” or the “GROWTH Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. PARTICIPATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN THE**
2 **NURSE EDUCATION, PRACTICE, QUALITY,**
3 **AND RETENTION-PATHWAY TO REGISTERED**
4 **NURSE PROGRAM.**

5 (a) ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE.—Section 831(f) of
6 the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p(f)) is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

9 “(1) The term ‘eligible entity’ includes—

10 “(A) a school of nursing;

11 “(B) a junior or community college;

12 “(C) a health care facility, such as a Fed-
13 erally qualified health center or nurse-managed
14 health clinic; and

15 “(D) a partnership of such a school or col-
16 lege and such a facility.

17 “(2) The term ‘junior or community college’
18 means—

19 “(A) a public institution of higher edu-
20 cation, including additional locations, at which
21 the highest awarded degree, or the predomi-
22 nantly awarded degree, is an associate degree;
23 or

24 “(B) any Tribal College or University (as
25 defined in section 316 of the Higher Education
26 Act of 1965).”.

1 (b) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Section 831 of the
2 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p), as amended,
3 is further amended by adding at the end the following:

4 “(g) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the total amount
5 awarded to eligible entities under this section for a fiscal
6 year, the Secretary shall, with respect to a portion of such
7 total amount to be determined by the Secretary, not to
8 exceed 50 percent of such total amount, give priority to
9 eligible entities that are—

10 “(1) a junior or community college with an ex-
11 isting nursing program; or

12 “(2) a partnership referred to in subsection
13 (f)(1)(D).”.